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1962/11/06

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Action
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Info

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Control: 2015

Rec'd: November 6, 1962
4:05 PM

FROM: Rio de Janeiro

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 933, November 6, 1 PM (Section two of two)

EYES ONLY

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I raised hypothesis that Castro might be entirely intransigent, either because of effective Soviet control or because of megalomaniac conviction that he had mission to spread Fidelismo over whole of Latin America. Hermes somewhat discounted former alternative on basis Fidel's deep annoyance with Soviets. Latter alternative seemed entirely new idea to him.

My overall impression was that Hermes is ingenuous and not overly intelligent, ignorant Cold War realities, and unhappily trying reconcile recent events with romantic jgith* that Castro mere Socialist reformer who may have key to what Latin America needs. As old-fashioned academic Socialist himself, finds it hard to believe that U.S. objection to Castro is not simply Capitalist aversion to Socialism. If GOB is going to play any constructive role in future Cuban developments, I suspect that ideas will have to be developed with much more able and sophisticated San Tiago Dantas -- bearing in mind his possible undependability -- rather than Hermes.

GORDON

CC

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